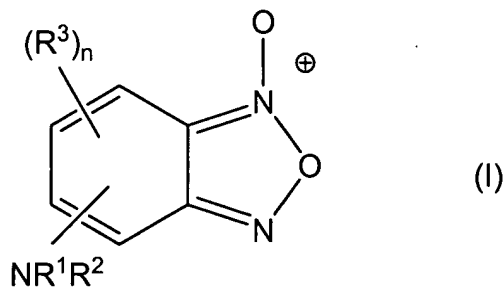


Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Please amend claims 1 and 12 as follows, and cancel claim 13:

1. (currently amended) A method for detecting an analyte by a redox reaction and a fluorimetric determination, comprising
- contacting a sample containing the analyte with a detection reagent which contains a compound of the general formula (I) as a fluorimetric redox indicator:



wherein

R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from R, $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR$, COR, COOR and OCOR,

R^3 in each case is independently selected from NO_2 , CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

R is H or C_1 - C_4 alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with halogen, OR, SR, NR_2 , COOR, $CONR_2$, SO_3R and salts thereof or/and $PO(OR)_3$ and salts thereof,

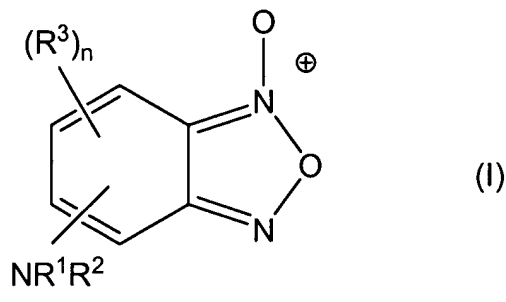
m is an integer from 1-20 and

n is 1, 2 or 3;

irradiating the sample with excitation light of a predetermined wavelength; and
detecting the presence of the analyte based on the fluorescence emission light
emitted by the sample.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are a C_1 - C_2 alkyl group substituted with OH.
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein R^3 is NO_2 .
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can directly accept electrons.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the redox indicator (I) can accept electrons via a mediator.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein an oxidizable substance is detected as the analyte.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the detection reagent further comprises one or more enzymes for reducing or oxidizing the analyte and optionally a coenzyme.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein glucose, lactate, alcohol, galactose, cholesterol, fructose, glycerol, pyruvate, creatinine, alanine, phenylalanine, leucine, triglycerides or HDL cholesterol are detected as analytes.
9. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein glucose is detected using glucose oxidase, glucose dye oxidoreductase or glucose dehydrogenase/diaphorase.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein an enzyme catalysing a redox reaction or an enzyme whose reaction can be coupled to an oxidoreductase reaction is detected as the analyte.
11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein glutamate-oxalacetate transaminase (GOT), (AST), glutamate-pyruvate transaminase (GPT), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) or creatine kinase (CK) are detected as analytes.

12. (currently amended) A reagent for detecting an analyte by a redox reaction and a fluorimetric determination, comprising a compound of the general formula (I):



wherein

R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from R, $(CH_2CH_2O)_mR$, COR, COOR and OCOR,

R^3 in each case is independently selected from NO_2 , CN, R, OR, OCOR, COOR, SR and halogen,

R is H or C_1 - C_4 alkyl, where alkyl is optionally substituted with halogen, OR, SR, NR_2 , COOR, $CONR_2$, SO_3R and salts thereof or/and $PO(OR)_3$ and salts thereof,

m is an integer from 1-20, [[and]]

n is 1, 2 or 3;

a first component selected from enzymes, coenzymes, auxiliary substances, buffers and mediators; and

at least one further component selected from enzymes, coenzymes and a mediator.

13. (canceled).